

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A method for treating a neoplastic disease or disorder characterized by cells expressing CD40 in a mammal, comprising:

administering to the mammal:

a. a CD20 specific binding agent, wherein the CD20 specific binding agent is ~~an antibody that binds CD20 rituximab~~; and

b. a CD40 specific binding agent that binds and stimulates CD40, enhances interaction between CD40 and CD40L and arrests the growth of or causes deletion of cells expressing CD40, wherein the CD40 specific binding agent is a monoclonal antibody that specifically competes for binding of CD40 with antibody S2C6;

wherein the neoplastic disease or disorder is rituximab resistant, and wherein the CD20 specific binding agent and the CD40 specific binding agent in combination inhibits the neoplastic disease or disorder in said mammal.

Claim 2 (Original): The method according to claim 1 wherein the neoplastic disease or disorder is a hematological malignancy.

Claim 3 (Original): The method according to claim 1 wherein the neoplastic disease or disorder is a solid tumor.

Claim 4 (Original): The method according to claim 2 wherein the malignancy is a lymphoma.

Claim 5 (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 4 wherein the lymphoma is a non-Hodgkin's lymphoma.

Claim 6 (Original): The method according to claim 2 wherein the malignancy is a myeloma.

Claim 7 (Original): The method according to claim 6 wherein the myeloma is a multiple myeloma.

Claim 8 (Original): The method according to claim 2 wherein the malignancy is a leukemia.

Claim 9-18 (Cancelled).

Claim 19 (Withdrawn) A pharmaceutical composition for treating a neoplastic disease or disorder characterized by cells expressing CD40, consisting essentially of: (a) an agent that arrests the growth of or causes deletion of cells expressing CD40 wherein the agent consists of a CD40 specific binding agent that stimulates CD40; (b) a CD20 specific binding agent; and (c) a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

Claims 20-31 (Cancelled).

Claim 32 (Previously Presented): The method of claim 1, wherein said CD40 specific binding agent and said CD20 specific binding agent are administered simultaneously.

Claim 33 (Previously Presented): The method of claim 1, wherein said CD40 specific binding agent and said CD20 specific binding agent are administered sequentially.

Claim 34-36 (Cancelled).

Claim 37 (Previously Presented): The method of claim 1, wherein the CD40 specific binding agent is a humanized antibody derived from S2C6.

Claim 38 (Previously Presented): The method of claim 1, wherein the CD40 specific binding agent is a chimeric antibody derived from S2C6.

Claim 39 (Canceled)

Claim 40 (Withdrawn): The method of claim 1, further comprising administering a cytotoxic or chemotherapeutic agent, simultaneously or sequentially with said combination.

Claim 41 (Withdrawn): The method of claim 1, further comprising administering one or more of a maytansine, a calicheamicin, or a trichothene, simultaneously or sequentially with said combination.

Claim 42 (Withdrawn): The method of claim 1, further comprising administering Gemzar™, simultaneously or sequentially with said combination.

Claim 43 (Withdrawn): The method of claim 1, wherein the CD40 specific binding agent, the CD20 specific binding agent, or both, is conjugated to a cytotoxic agent.

Claim 44 (Withdrawn): The method claim 34, wherein the cytotoxic agent comprises a radioactive isotope, a chemotherapeutic agent, or a toxin.

Claim 45 (Withdrawn): The method of claim 1, wherein the CD40 specific binding agent, the CD20 specific binding agent, or both, is conjugated to a prodrug-activating enzyme which converts a prodrug to an active anti-cancer drug.

Claim 46 (Previously Presented): The method of claim 37, wherein the humanized antibody is an antibody fragment.

Claim 47 (Previously Presented): The method of claim 46, wherein the antibody fragment is a Fab, Fab', F(ab')₂, Fv, diabody, linear antibody, sFv, or a multispecific antibody formed from antibody fragments.

Claim 48 (Canceled)

Claim 49 (Canceled)

Claim 50 (Previously Presented): The method of claim 38, wherein the chimeric antibody is an antibody fragment.

Claim 51 (Previously Presented): The method of claim 50, wherein the antibody fragment is a Fab, Fab', F(ab')₂, Fv, diabody, linear antibody, sFv, or a multispecific antibody formed from antibody fragments.

Claim 52 (Previously Presented): The method of claim 1, wherein the humanized antibody derived from S2C6 comprises heavy chain complementarity determining residues shown in SEQ ID NO:1, SEQ ID NO:2, and SEQ ID NO:3 and light chain complementarity determining residues shown in SEQ ID NO:4, SEQ ID NO:5, and SEQ ID NO:6.

Claims 53-57

Claim 58 (Withdrawn): The method of claim 1, further comprising administering gemcitabine, simultaneously or sequentially with said combination.

Claim 59 (Withdrawn): The method of claim 1, further comprising administering one or more chemotherapeutic agents comprising ifosfamide, carboplatin and etoposide.